

## IN SUMMARY...

<b>Activity levels**</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All zones reported no activity during this reporting period.</li> </ul>
<b>Laboratory-confirmed cases***</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There were 0 influenza cases reported during this reporting period. There have been 297 lab confirmed cases of Influenza A this season and 9 Influenza B.</li> <li>Positive test results were received for Bocavirus, Mycoplasma pneumoniae, Pertussis and RSV.</li> </ul>
<b>Severity</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There have been 25 ICU admissions of laboratory confirmed influenza and 18 influenza deaths**** for the 2015-2016 influenza season.</li> </ul>
<b>Syndromic surveillance</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The average ILI rate for Nova Scotia during this reporting period was 0.75.</li> <li>98.5% of emergency rooms reported ILI data during this reporting period.</li> </ul>

**Notes:** \*Reporting weeks run from Sunday to Saturday. The 2015-2016 influenza season is defined using PHAC's influenza surveillance weeks. This year runs from August 30, 2015 (Week 35) to August 27, 2016 (Week 34);

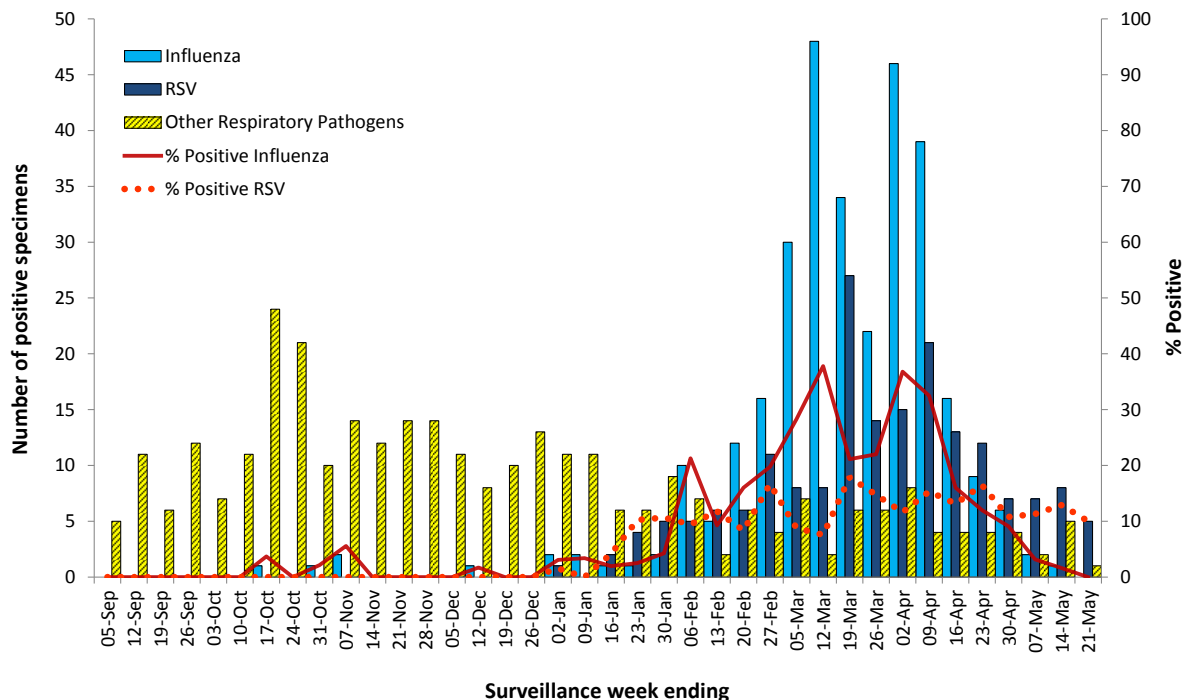
\*\*Activity level data is obtained from CNPHI, see appendix for definitions;

\*\*\* Only a limited number of specimens are subtyped and/or receive multiplex testing. For information on influenza testing for the 2015-2016 season, see the [outbreak response plan](#)

\*\*\*\*Deaths include individuals with a positive influenza test result, influenza may not have been the major contributing cause of death or hospitalization.

## LABORATORY-CONFIRMED CASES

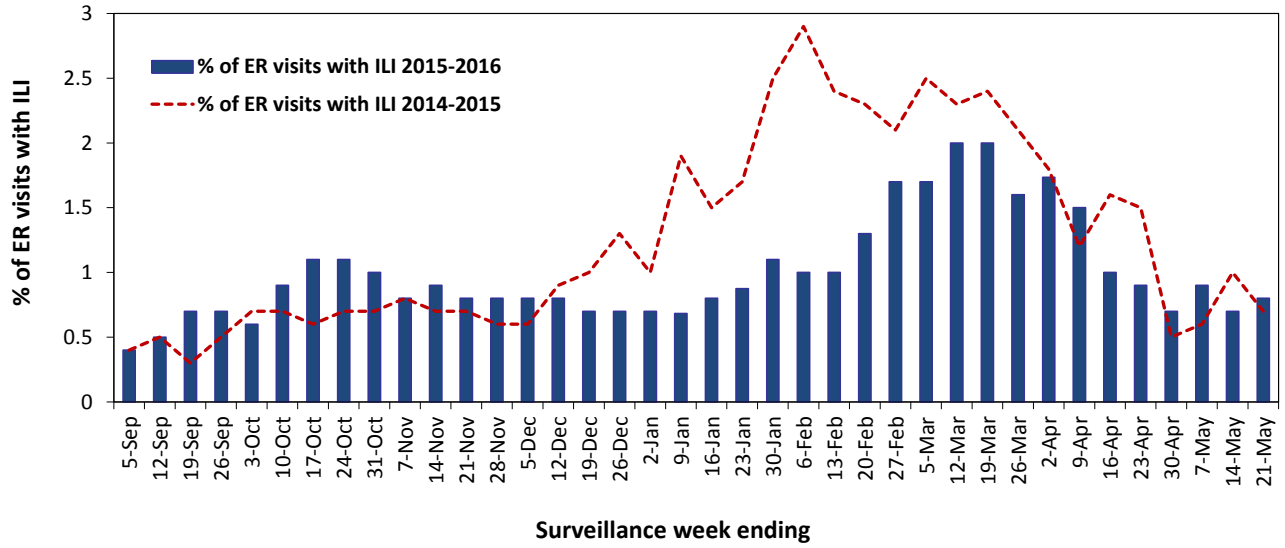
**Figure 1: Number of respiratory specimens tested positive, and select percent positives, by report week, 2015-2016 season, Nova Scotia.**



\*Data for this figure is obtained from provincial laboratories. All other data, unless otherwise stated, has been obtained from ANDS. Reporting lags may cause the data in this figure to not reconcile with others.

## SYNDROMIC SURVEILLANCE

Figure 2: Percentage of emergency room visits due to ILI by week, Nova Scotia.



**APPENDIX: DEFINITIONS USED IN INFLUENZA SURVEILLANCE, AND USEFUL LINKS, 2015-2016**

**ACRONYM LIST**

- CNPHI** Canadian Network for Public Health Intelligence  
**ICU** Intensive care unit  
**ILI** Influenza-like illness  
**RSV** Respiratory syncytial virus

**ILI CASE DEFINITION**

Acute onset of respiratory illness with fever and cough and with one or more of the following – sore throat, arthralgia, myalgia or prostration which is likely due to influenza. In children under 5, gastrointestinal symptoms may also be present. In patients under 5 or 65 and older, fever may not be prominent.

**NATIONAL FLUWATCH DEFINITIONS FOR INFLUENZA ACTIVITY LEVELS**

<b>No activity</b>	No laboratory-confirmed influenza detections in the reporting week, however, sporadically occurring ILI* may be reported
<b>Sporadic</b>	Sporadically occurring ILI* and lab confirmed influenza detection(s) with <b>no outbreaks</b> detected within the influenza surveillance region
<b>Localized</b>	(1) Evidence of increased ILI* and (2) lab confirmed influenza detection(s) together with (3) outbreaks occurring in schools, hospitals, residential institutions and/or other types of facilities occurring in less than 50% of the influenza surveillance region
<b>Widespread</b>	(1) Evidence of increased ILI* and (2) lab confirmed influenza detection(s) together with (3) outbreaks occurring in schools, hospitals, residential institutions and/or other types of facilities occurring in greater than or equal to 50% of the influenza surveillance region

**LINKS TO OTHER WEEKLY INFLUENZA REPORTING BODIES**

Canada: <http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/fluwatch/>  
World: [https://www.who.int/influenza/surveillance\\_monitoring/updates/latest\\_update\\_GIP\\_surveillance/en/index.html](https://www.who.int/influenza/surveillance_monitoring/updates/latest_update_GIP_surveillance/en/index.html)  
US: [www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly](http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly)